

gates as are required for the faithful discharge of their legislative duties. Let them be so apportioned that all classes may be heard and derive mutual benefit. By the present general system, no interest is represented except that of the Democratic or Whig party, whichever may be predominant. Divide the city into ten districts and all the great interests may be protected. This should be made a "*sine qua non*," by the various classes, whether commercial, shipping, manufacturing, mechanical, laboring, and especially the naturalised foreigners, by which system alone can their respective interests be represented.

Mr. J. asked the gentleman from Baltimore if he intended to carry out, in good earnest, the system most likely to benefit the naturalised foreigners?

Mr. BRENT. Yes, sir. I do mean to carry it out.

Mr. J. replied. Then you will of course adopt that which he had indicated, and if so, it would certainly meet with success, for none could doubt the ability, power or ingenuity of the Attorney General and his colleagues in supporting any measure they thought proper to advocate. And now, Mr. J. said, he would give an evidence of the zeal which prompted some gentlemen in looking even beyond the walls of this House for means to carry out the great principles by which they were actuated. He would not, of course, refer to what he was about to read, were it not public property, published in the *Republican and Argus*, of Baltimore, a few days since, which paper is the recognised organ of the Democratic party in Baltimore.

"We have received from an intelligent and observant friend a communication upon this subject, from which we give the following extracts, commending them to the serious consideration of our friends in the Convention throughout the State, and especially to the citizens of Baltimore:

"Before the people of Baltimore should agree to any compromise of the basis of representation, short of their just rights to equal participation in the government, they should require as preliminary conditions the following, viz:

"1st. That the right of the people to call a Convention periodically, say every ten years, should be guaranteed and fully provided for in the Constitution, without leaving it dependent on the caprice of the Legislature in any respect, otherwise posterity will have no stipulated remedy to effect such reforms as the progress of humanity will require.

"2d. That the Executive Department shall be elective by the people in the same way, for the same term, and at the same times as now provided for; otherwise, if we agree to a scheme of adjustment for representation, the Convention may go on to adopt the report made by the Whig minority of the Committee on the Executive, abridging the term of the present Governor, *fresh from the people*, to two years, and providing thereafter for an election of Governor every four years, in order to bring about the election of Governor and President of the United States on the same day—thus, as it is hoped, insuring Whig Govern-

nors by bringing out their full vote at the same time for President. If the the cloven-foot of Whiggery shall thus appear stamped on the Constitution, it will and ought to rally the whole Democratic party to oppose it, especially if it strips the Executive of that patronage which has proved itself the club of Hercules in the hands of the great Reform Democratic party.

"3d. The overthrow and re-organization of the entire Judiciary system, to take effect so soon as practicable.

"If these three principles could be secured as preliminary, then, in the absence of better terms, the people of Baltimore ought to consent to such a basis of representation as would give her double the power of the largest county in both the House of Delegates and Senate."

Mr. J. said he recognized in the first position, a portion of this as good sound doctrine, which was that when a Constitution was framed and approved by the people, there should be some legal constitutional mode to alter or abolish it. Therefore he should not object its being submitted to the people every ten years, to say whether they would have a Convention or not. Yet he thought that it might be well to provide for some changes which might be required to be made in the new Constitution, by two successive acts of the Legislature, with sufficient guards. The second position was also sound—that the Governor should be elected by the people in the same way, as now provided for. The next was against the election for Governor at the same time of the Presidential election, because there was a larger number at the polls at that time than any other, when the Whigs always had a majority. Surely the gentleman with his democratic principles, which nearly border on red republican doctrine, cannot object to the whole vote of the State, being called out, lest there may be a Whig majority. If so, then his political principles are merged into party. The last paragraph of the second position, was a precious confession. Now, he did not believe that his friend voted for the Governor's elections upon the principle avowed; but certain it was, that if stripping the Governor of his patronage was to deprive the Democratic party of its influence in the State, if the "*Club of Hercules*" was to be taken from them, his friend would not be responsible for that.

Mr. BRENT said that that was not correct—he hoped the gentleman would state him correctly: It was not the only time in which the gentleman had done him injustice.

Mr. JENIFER replied that he was reading the gentleman's views, as published by his accredited agent—the Baltimore Republican and Argus.

Mr. J. read further, and said:

Let the patronage be in the Governor's hands, let the Judiciary be reformed, and the gentleman would then be willing to go for twelve representatives from the city of Baltimore, in the House of Delegates. For what purposes? For the benefit of the people of Baltimore—for the benefit of his naturalized friends? No, for the benefit only of the Democratic party. Therefore,